

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

DLOS-06 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00

DOT-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01 DRC-01

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9607

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 3413

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, UN

SUBJ: LOS

1. AMB AMERASINGHE MET WITH CHAIRMEN OF REGIONAL GROUPS PLUS US 25 SEPT AT UN TO NOTE DECISIONS THAT MUST BE MADE ON LOS AT 28TH GA AND EXPLAIN HIS SUGGESTIONS REGARDING LOS CONF IN LIGHT OF DISCUSSION IN CONTACT GROUPS IN GENEVA AT END OF AUGUST. AMERASINGHE SOUGHT NO VIEWS AT THIS STAGE BUT REQUESTED THAT HIS SUGGESTIONS, (COPY POUCHED TO D/LOS) HE REFERRED TO REGIONAL GROUP MEMBERS FOR REACTIONS. HE WILL MEET WITH EACH GROUP IF REQUESTED. ATTENDING MEETING WERE UNDER SYG STAVROPOULOS, SEABEDS COMITE SECRETARY HALL; MOORE, REIS AND MCKEW (US); JAMIESON AND STEELE (UK) REPRESENTING WEO; OGISO AND IGUCHI (JAPAN) REPRESENTING ASIANS; AMB JACKSON (GUYANA) REPRESENTING LA; CHEBELEU (ROMANIA) REPRESENTING EE. AF REP (MAURITANIA) UNABLE TO ATTEND.

2. COMITE I ACTION. AMERASINGHE NOTES THAT AMONG  
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ESSENTIAL ASPECTS OF LOS RES AT 28TH GA ARE (A) CONF

SHOULD BEGIN AS DECIDED IN RES 3029A(XXVII) WITH ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION IN NY IN NOV/DEC PERIOD; (B) EXACT AGENDA OF CONF SHOULD BE DECIDED; AND (C) STATES TO BE INVITED SHOULD BE SPECIFIED. RES "SHOULD ALSO REQUEST SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR CONF BASED ON THOSE OF PREVIOUS CODIFICATION CONFS, WITH APPROPRIATE MODIFICATIONS TAKING INTO ACCOUNT VIEWS PREVAILING IN SBC AND IN COMITE I, IT BEING UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS WOULD MEAN VIEWS EXPRESSED IN CONSULTATION PROCESS AS WELL." AMERASINGHE DIRECTED APPEAL TO REGIONAL GROUP MEMBERS TO CONFINE DEBATE IN COMITE I TO PROCEDURAL MATTERS NOTING THAT OPENING DOOR TO DEBATE ON SUBSTANCE WOULD STOP PROGRESS. STAVROPOULOS SAID WORDING OF RES 3029A(XXVII) DOES NOT ANTICIPATE DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANCE.

3. SCHEDULE. AMERASINGHE WANTS TO CHAIR MEETING OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON 8, 9 OR 10 OCT TO ATTEMPT TO REACH SOME UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IS REQUIRED BEFORE COMITE I TAKES UP LOS ITEM 15 OCT. (CONSULTATIVE GROUP, HE SAID, WOULD HAVE SAME OR SIMILAR MEMBERSHIP AS AT SBC GENEVA). ASSUMING COMITE I DECISION TO PROCEED WITH CONF, DRAFT RES WOULD BE SENT IMMEDIATELY TO GA PLENARY FOR ADOPTION IN ORDER TO PERMIT INVITATIONS TO BE PROMPTLY EXTENDED TO NON-SBC MEMBERS. FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE HELD IN PERIOD BETWEEN COMITE I ACTION AND START OF INAUGURAL SESSION.

4. INAUGURAL SESSION OF CONF. AMERASINGHE AND STAVROPOULOS CONSIDER SCHEDULING OF OTHER GA COMITES WILL CLEARLY DICTATE THAT INAUGURAL CONF SESSION WILL BEGIN IN LATE NOV FOR 1 OR 2 DAYS (FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS) AND THEN AGAIN AFTER 10 DEC FOR A VERY FEW DAYS TO ADOPT RULES OF PROCEDURE. AS AMERASINGHE SAID, A SUCCESSFUL INAUGURAL SESSION WOULD INVOLVE ONLY BRIEF FORMAL ACTION RECORDING A CONSENSUS ON THESE ISSUES OF BUREAU AND PROCEDURE. AMERASINGHE HOPES INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO INAUGURAL SESSION WILL RESOLVE ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND HE URGED GROUPS TO BEGIN THINKING ABOUT WHICH COMITES THEY WANTED AND HOW THEY ARE TO BE SHARED; PRESIDENCY OF CONF WOULD MEAN THAT EACH OF OTHER FOUR MAIN REGIONS

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SHOULD HAVE CHAIRMANSHIP OF A MAIN COMITE. HE FURTHER SPECULATED THAT WEO GROUP MIGHT TAKE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MAIN COMITE WITH ISSUES FROM SBC SC 3, AF GROUP OF COMITE WITH ISSUES FROM SBC SC 1, LA GROUP OF COMITE WITH ISSUES FROM SBC SC 2, AND EE GROUP NEW COMITE 4 (EXPLAINED BELOW).

5. LOCATION AND DURATION OF CONF SUBSTANTIVE SESSIONS. AMERASINGHE STATED HIS BELIEF THAT THERE IS STRONG

SUPPORT FOR TWO CONF SESSION IN 1974. FIRST SESSION IN MAR/APR COULD BE HELD IN NYC WITHOUT CREATING SCHEDULING PROBLEMS. THIS SESSION WOULD ATTEMPT TO "BEGIN NEGOTIATING PROCESS, REFINE TEXTS AND REDUCE ALTERNATIVES". REGARDING SUMMER SESSION AMERASINGHE STATED THAT MANY DELEGATIONS HAVE "VERY STRONG RESERVATIONS" ABOUT GOING TO SANTIAGO AND HE HIMSELF SEES NO PROSPECT OF HOLDING THE CONF IN CHILE. HE CONSIDERED TWO POSSIBILITIES: VIENNA AND GENEVA. NOTING EARLIER AUSTRIAN STATEMENTS THAT VIENNA BOOKED SOLID FOR 74, AMERASINGHE STATED HE DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH AUSTRIAN'S FONMIN AND PERMREP 24 SEPT AND LEARNED THAT FIRM GA REQUEST TO GOA MIGHT BE PRODUCTIVE. HE ADDED ONLY 3 ROOMS CAPABLE OF HANDLING FULL COMITES WOULD BE AVAILABLE AT ANY ONE TIME IN VIENNA (PLUS OTHER SMALLER ROOMS), BUT THIS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE SINCE SMALLER DELS COULD NOT IN ANY EVENT ATTEND MORE THAN THREE MAIN COMITEES MEETING SIMULTANEOUSLY. HE SAID GENEVA, ALTHOUGH AFFORDING SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL MEETING FACILITIES, HAD A "PRETTY FULL SCHEDULE" BUT DID NOT ELABORATE. (NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THE DURATION OF EITHER SESSION.)

6. PARTICIPATION IN CONF. AMERASINGHE SUGGESTS THAT GA "MAY WISH TO INVITE STATES MEMBERS OF THE UN AND/OR SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, AS WELL AS OTHER STATES WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE SPECIFIED." AT THE MEETING HE ADDED ONLY THAT INVITEES SHOULD HAVE CONTROL OF OWN FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WHEN UK DEP PERM REP JAMIESON WONDERED ALOUD IF QUESTION COULD BE RESOLVED BY MERELY ADDING DRV, AMERASINGHE GLOOMILY NOTED THAT THERE WERE "OTHER SUGGESTIONS". FOLLOWING THIS MEETING STAVROPOULOS TOLD MOORE SOVS HAVE INDICATED TO HIM THEY WILL SEEK INVITATION FOR PRG. HE HAS THUS FAR HEARD ONLY FROM SOVS ON THIS QUESTION.  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 3413

7. CONFERENCE STRUCTURE. (A) MAIN COMITES. AMERASINGHE NOTED MAJORITY PREFERRED TRANSPLANT OF SBC STRUCTURE TO CONF BUT ADDED HIS PREFERENCE, WHICH HE STATED HAS SOME SUPPORT, FOR CREATION OF AN ADDITIONAL COMITE 4 (A "SPECIAL COMITE"). HE CITED AS REASONS FOR A 4TH COMITE THE WIDELY ACKNOWLEDGED LACK OF PROGRESS IN SC 2 (AS CONSEQUENCE OF "OVERLOAD OF WORK"), THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH "HORIZONTAL ISSUES" AS SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES, AND THE FACT THAT FOUR MAIN COMITES AND CONF WOULD SATISFY EACH REGIONAL GROUP ASPIRATIONS FOR A MAIN COMITE CHAIRMANSHIP. NEW COMITE, HE SUGGESTS, COULD TAKE ITEMS OF GENERAL CHARACTER (EG. LIST ITEMS 15, 20, 21, 22, 25 AND ITEM ON "RELATIONSHIP OF NEW CONVENTION TO EXISTING CONVENTIONS"), PLUS "SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS MAY BE REFERRED TO IT". LATTER PHRASE, ACCORDING TO STAVROPOULOS, WOULD COVER MOORE'S REQUEST TO INCLUDE ITEM ON "PROVISIONAL APPLICATION". EACH MAIN COMITE, IN TURN, WOULD BE FREE TO ESTABLISH WORKING GROUPS OR DRAFTING GROUPS AS NECESSARY. (B) STEERING OR GENERAL COMITE. THIS COMITE IS TO FUNCTION AS GA GENERAL COMITE BY COORDINATING WRK OF CONF, DEALING WITH ORGANIZATIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS, AND TELLING MAIN COMITES WHEN TO FINISH VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF THEIR WORK AND REPORT TO PLENARY. MEMBERSHIP TO BE REPRESENTATIVE AS POSSIBLE MIGHT INCLUDE CONF PRESIDENT, APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF VPS (17 IN GA), CHAIRMEN OF MAIN COMITES AND CHAIRMAN OF DRAFTING COMITE. UNDERSTANDING MUST BE REACHED IN REGIONAL GROUPS ON NUMBER AND GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF POSTS OF VICE PRESIDENTS. ACCORDING TO AMERASINGHE, VIEWS ON TOTAL GENERAL COMITE MEMBERSHIP RANGE TO 35 BUT

HE ADDED HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY STRONG SUPPORT FOR AS MANY AS 29 VPS. HE OBSERVED THAT IN SELECTION PROCESS AFRICAN BLOC AND ASIAN BLOCS WILL REQUIRE SEPARATE REPRESENTATION. STAVROPOULOS LATER TOLD MOORE HE FORSEES CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN INCLUDING PERMANENT MEMBERS OF SC IN GENERAL COMITE AS MATTER OF RIGHT. MOORE RESPONDED STRONGLY BUT STAVROPOULOS PERSISTED IN HIS DOUBTS. (C) DRAFTING COMITE. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS MUST BE DETERMINED BUT COMITE SHOULD RECONCILE, COORDINATE, AND REFINE DRAFTS AND NOT INITIATE. THIS DOES NOT PRECLUDE EXISTENCE OF A DRAFTING GROUP IN EACH MAIN COMITE IF THE COMITE SO DESIRES. AMERASINGHE SUGGESTED COMPOSITION AND NUMBER (15) AS AT VIENNA CONF.

8. CONF PROCEDURES. AMERASINGHE SUGGESTS, "RULES OF PROCEDURE SHOULD CONTAIN RULES SUCH AS WERE ADOPTED AT PREVIOUS CODIFICATION CONFS, WITH SIMPLE MAJORITY IN COMITE AND TWO THIRDS IN PLENARY, BUT THERE SHOULD BE GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT, PERHAPS EXPRESSED BY CONF PRES IN CONNECTION WITH ADOPTION OF RULES OF PROCEDURE, TO THE EFFECT THERE SHOULD BE NO VOTING ON PROCEDURAL MATTERS UNLESS IT IS UNAVOIDABLE AND THERE SHOULD BE NO VOTING ON SUBSTANTIVE TEXTS UNTIL CONF DECIDES THAT DEVELOPMENT OF ITS WORK MAKES THAT APPROPRIATE". AMERASINGHE STATED THAT CONSENSUS SHOULD BE SOUGHT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, EVEN IN PLENARY, AND VOTING ONLY WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS. QUESTION OF WHEN CONF DECIDES TO VOTE IS TO BE DECIDED BY GENERAL COMITE WHERE CONSENSUS SHOULD BE SOUGHT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE (SIC).

9. CONF AGENDA. AMERASINGHE SUGGESTS EXACT AGENDA BE SPECIFIED IN GA RES. HE NOTES ONE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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TO RECALL PROVISIONS OF OPERATIVE PARA 2 OF GA RES 2750C BUT MORE SPECIFICALLY TO REFER TO LIST OF SUBJECTS AND ISSUES SUBMITTED IN 1972 SBC REPORT TO GA. SCALI

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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